

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION**

JOANNA WILSON, as Independent Administrator
of the Estate of Areon J. Marion, Deceased

Plaintiff,

vs.

COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, et al.,

Defendants.

Case No.: 22-cv-6886

Honorable Andrea R. Wood

PARTIES JOINT STATUS REPORT

Plaintiff, Joanna Wilson, and Defendants, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, COOK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, Yaser Haq, Ahleah C. Balawender PA-C, Jason Sprague, Lauren Cartwright, Nikki Ruffin, and Officer B. Vargas, by their respective attorneys, hereby submit the following joint status report:

1. The Current Status of Discovery:

- a. The parties have exchanged Rule 26(a)(1) disclosures, along with accompanying documents. On March 21, 2023, Plaintiff issued discovery requests on all defendants. In the process of litigating the case, counsel for Cook County Defendants uncovered a possible conflict in representing two individuals: Nikki Ruffin and Steve Paschos. The two defendants were subsequently appointed to outside counsel. Counsel for Nikki Ruffin filed an appearance. Counsel for Steve Paschos is in the process of reviewing the case and filing an appearance. As a result of the additional time needed for review and appointment of outside counsel, as well as the extent of Plaintiff's lengthy discovery requests, Defendants requested additional time to respond to Plaintiff's discovery requests. Plaintiff

agreed to an extension to May 22, 2023. On May 8, 2023, the Sheriff's Office and Officer Vargas issued discovery requests to Plaintiff.

- b. At this time, the parties are not aware of any disputes that will require the Court's involvement and expect to complete discovery by January 31, 2024.
2. Defendant Bednarz has been served and filed an answer to Plaintiff's First Amended Complaint.
3. Defendants received a settlement demand from Plaintiff on April 12, 2023. Defendants are in the process of reviewing the case to determine whether a settlement conference would be fruitful.
4. The parties do not believe that a telephonic status hearing is required at this time.

Respectfully Submitted,

KIMBERLY M. FOXX
State's Attorney of Cook County

By: /s/ Mia Buntic
Mia Buntic
Assistant State's Attorney
500 Richard J. Daley Center, Suite 2760
Chicago IL 60602
(312)603-1434
Mia.buntic@cookcountyil.gov
On behalf of **COOK COUNTY**

KIMBERLY M. FOXX
State's Attorney of Cook County

By: /s/ Antonio Lee
Antonio Lee
Assistant State's Attorneys
500 Richard J. Daley Center
Chicago, Illinois 60602
(312)603-5439

Antonio.Lee@cookcountyil.gov

On behalf of **SHERIFF's Office and
Officer Vargas**

s/ James Pullos

James C. Pullos

120 N. LaSalle Street

Suite 3600

Chicago, IL 60602

Phone: 312-899-9090

jcp@cliffordlaw.com

On behalf of **Plaintiff**

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on May 8, 2023, I electronically filed the foregoing document with the Clerk of the Court for Northern District of Illinois, using the electronic case filing system of the Court. The electronic case filing system sent a "Notice of E-Filing" to the attorneys of record in this case.

/s/ Mia Buntic

Mia Buntic